

WRA Legislative Advocacy – ACTIVITY REPORT

To: Nick Chiulos, Assistant CAO
From: Robert Johnson, WRA Deputy GM
Date: August 26, 2016

Advance Notification of Upcoming Meetings (who, where, when, purpose of meeting)

1. No meetings are scheduled within the next month.

Report on meetings this reporting period

1. There continues to be weekly Interlake Tunnel Project progress / coordination meetings.

Report on any other activities undertaken on behalf of WRA:

1. On July 1, WRA received confirmation of funding in the State Budget for Salinas River Lagoon efforts. Senator Cannella introduced SB 1264 to secure \$1M for Salinas River and Lagoon work.
2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) – Formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).
 - a. First facilitated Public Workshop was January 21, 2016 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm
 - i. Over 100 people attended
 - b. Collaborative Work Group (CWG) has been meeting twice a month to develop the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin (SVGB) GSA.
 - i. Various GSA models have been reviewed
 - ii. A hypothetical cost estimate has been presented
 - c. WRA submitted a Jurisdictional Basin Boundary Modification for the Paso Robles Sub-basin in April. DWR has denied the modification request. WRA is moving forward with new plan.
 - d. No CWG meetings are scheduled for July.
 - e. **Next Large stakeholder Group meeting is scheduled for September 8 at Sherwood Hall in Salinas.**
3. Interlake Tunnel Project progress:
 - a. White Bass Solution Development
 - i. No official response from CDFW since the November 19, 2015 submittal.
 - ii. CDFW did provide Scoping Comments as part of Notice of Preparation process
 - b. Notice of Preparation (NOP) Scoping Meetings were held:
 - i. May 16, 2016 – Salinas, 25 or so attendees, and
 - ii. May 17, 2016 – Bradley – 35 or so attendees
 - iii. Comments were received
 - iv. NOP Scoping Comment Period is now closed.
 - c. July 15 – A Workshop was held to develop alternatives for a revised Project Description.
 - d. AB1585 needs to go through the Senate in August for the bill to be adopted.
 - i. \$25M amount has been reduced to \$10M
 - e. Project Labor Agreement (PLA) has been negotiated and signed by a majority of the required signatories.
 - f. A Project update was provided to the BOS regarding the Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Projects on June 21, 2016; similar updates were provided to the WRA BOD on June 25, 2016 and July 25, 2016, as well as the Agency BOS on July 26, 2016.
 - g. Sustainable Project Funding needs to be secured for project to move forward effectively.

UPCOMING

CONFERENCE CALLS	WRA ACTIVITY REPORT DEADLINES	LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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